

Les Weisbrich has been painting over 50 years. He won his first professional art award at the age of 8. By age 13 he had produced over 300 paintings and had a series of one-man shows.

Born in New Jersey and raised in Los Angeles, he joined the U.S. Navy after graduating from high school. Upon his discharge, architectural firms employed him where he produced architectural delineations and illustrations in watercolour. His desire to develop foundation skills in commercial art led him to enrol in the Art Centre. He then transferred to the prestigious Kahn Institute of Art where, upon completing his studies, he joined the facility as a teacher.

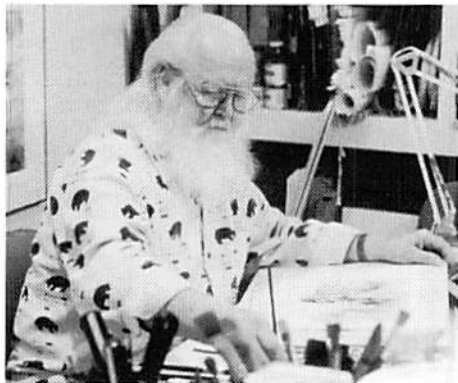
Shortly afterwards he opened Les Weisbrich & Associates Inc. in Beverly Hills. His studio provided complete graphic services and advertising campaigns to a varied clientele of national and international businesses. His company also produced film and video commercials, television set design, three dimensional trade exhibits, and the titles and support graphics for numerous television, film and recording celebrities. He co-designed the American Library Association exhibit at the Seattle World's Fair. His pioneering work in computer animation won a Bronze Medal at the Atlantic Film Festival.

Though commercial art brought financial success and professional acclaim, Weisbrich still longed for the spiritual inner fulfilment of a fine artist. In 1972, after 25 years in business, he sold the studio and moved his family to British Columbia. Immigrating to Canada, and later becoming a citizen, it was a conscious turning point back to fine art, bringing him full circle in his painting career.

Weisbrich lives quietly among the peaceful lakes and mountains of the Slocan Valley, in New Denver, with his wife and family. He exhibits

regularly, and has his art on display in his own gallery, just north of New Denver, juries shows, and willingly shares his techniques and knowledge with students from across Canada and the United States in his popular watercolour workshops. He is the recipient of several honours and awards and his work is collected internationally.

Over the years, Les has supported efforts to improve facilities within BC Parks and increase awareness about the Valhalla and Kokanee Glacier Parks. With the Kokanee Glacier Alpine Campaign, he has donated the watercolour painting, "Slocan Chief Cabin". Working with the "Friends of West Kootenay Parks", he has developed a limited edition of 400 prints of the painting. All proceeds of the sales will be directed to the restoration of the Slocan Chief Cabin and the development of an interpretation package for the cabin.



les weisbrich

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